

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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SUBJECT: SCHMIDT REMARKS TO FRIEDRICH EBERT FOUNDATION

REF: HAMBURG 586

FOLLOWING THE REMARKS OF HENRY KISSINGER ON
APRIL 28 TO THE HAMBURG CONFERENCE OF THE FRIEDRICH EBERT
FOUNDATION (SPD) CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT SPOKE EXTEPORANEOUSLY.
A SUMMARY OF HIS REMARKS FOLLOW:

1. I AGREE WITH HENRY THAT THE NEUTRON BOMB IS A SMALL
PART OF THE TOTAL AREA OF OUR JOINT MILITARY DEFENSE.
NATO COOPERATION HAS BEEN A FACT FOR DECADES AND CONTINUES
TO BE A FACT, BUT THE COOPERATION OF THE PAST WILL NOT BE
ENOUGH FOR THE FUTURE. THERE ARE NEW QUESTIONS AND
TO THESE WE MUST FIND ANSWERS. FOR EXAMPLE WHILE THE MILITARY
BALANCE IN EUROPE IS ESSTENTIAL TO MAINTAIN, WE MUST ALSO MAKE
CERTAIN THAT OUR WILL TO USE OUR MILITARY POWER, IF NECESSARY,
IS VISIBLE NO MATTER HOW CAREFUL WE ARE TO AVOID ACTS OF
PROVOCATION.

2. WITH REGARD TO THE THIRD WORLD, I AGREE THAT THE COMECON
NATIONS HAVE GIVEN THE UNDERDEVELOPED WORLD NOTHING EXCEPT
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SLOGANS AND GUNS. WE SOMETIMES OVERLOOK THE FACT THAT WHAT
WE IN THE WEST HAVE PROVIDED TO THE UNDERDEVELOPED NATIONS HAS
BEEN AT THE EXPENSE OF OUR OWN CITIZENS EVEN THOUGH WE ARE
DAMMED BY THOSE FOR WHOM THE SACRIFICES HAVE BEEN MADE.
IT IS TIME THAT WE COLLECTIVELY UNDERSTAND THAT,
IN RETURN FOR OUR ASSISANCE, WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO DEMAND
SOMETHING -- FOR EXAMPLE, PROTECTION OF INVESTMENDS -- AND

RECEIVING NATIONS MUST UNDERSTAND THAT THESE ASSURANCES ARE IN THEIR INTERESTS ALSO. WITH REGARD TO THE ROLE OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE WORLD, IT IS A SIMPLE FACT THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS A LEADERSHIP ROLE WHETHER IT WISHES IT OR NOT AND MUST AGAIN AND AGAIN FACE THE PROBLEM OF HOW TO LEAD WITHOUT BEING ACCUSED OF DOMINATING. COOPERATION IN THE WESTERN WORLD IN THE FIELD OF DEFENSE HAS FOR YEARS BEEN VERY GOOD AND WHILE THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT HAVE ALL THE ANSWERS NO ONE KNOWS THAT BETTER THAN THE UNITED STATES ITSELF. BUT THE UNITED STATES HAS NOT UNDERSTOOD ITS RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ECONOMIC LEADERSHIP. THE FAILURE OF THE UNITED STATES TO ADOPT AN ENERGY POLICY HAS OF COURSE HAD PAINFUL RESULTS FOR THE UNITED STATES ITSELF BUT IT ALSO HAS BEEN AN ACT OF IRRESPONSIBILITY TO THE REST OF THE WORLD AND THE ACCOMPANYING HUGE DEFICIT IN THE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS HAS BROUGHT AN ALMOST UNBEARABLE INSTABILITY TO THE PRINCIPAL RESERVE CURRENCY OF THE WESTERN WORLD.

3. IT IS NOT A MATTER OF TRUST. THE UNITED STATES EARNED OUR TRUST DURING THE BERLIN BLOCKADE AND HAS JUSTIFIED IT EVER SINCE. WE QUITE WILLINGLY RECOGNIZE ITS LEADERSHIP ROLE BUT I REPEAT THE UNITED STATES MUST NOW RECOGNIZE ITS LEADERSHIP ROLE IN THE WORLD OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND I THINK HERE PARTICULARLY THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

4. IN CLOSING, LET ME SAY TWO THINGS. I AM CONTINUALLY
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AMAZED AT THE VITALITY AND STRENGTH OF THE UNITED STATES, AND THERE IS NO GROUND WHATSOEVER TO FEAR THAT THE UNITED STATES AND GERMANY ARE DRIFTING APART. KISELYAK

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